



Life of Christ

Mary, Jesus' mother/Joseph

Luke 1:26-35; Gen. 39:6-13

Younger Verse

How can a young person keep his way pure? By living according to Your Word. Psalm 119:9

Older Verse

How can a young person keep his way pure? By living according to Your Word. Psalm 119:9

Lesson Goals

See the importance of being pure in all areas of life
Make a commitment to be pure in everything

Teachers: Please PRAYERFULLY prepare for this lesson. This will probably be a lesson filled with lots of discussion. If you do not feel that this lesson is appropriate for your children, there is another lesson included on purity. Please prayerfully consider what you should teach. Our children need to understand the importance of staying pure and knowing what the Bible says on this subject.

Welcome Time

To introduce this lesson, do the shaving cream object lesson or muddy water illustration that is included. It will help them see how sin/impurity affects us.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Today's lesson is on purity. What does it mean to be pure? (wait for answers to see how much they know about this subject) Today we are going to look at 2 people who were pure—and how God used them.

Luke 1 tells us the story of Jesus' birth. It also tells us the story of Jesus' mother, Mary. She was probably 16 when she was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph.

One day, an angel came to Mary. At first Mary was a little scared. She was not sure what the angel wanted. The angel quickly calmed Mary's fears by telling her that God was pleased with her.

Then he told Mary some incredible news. He told her that she was going to be pregnant and have a son. His name would be Jesus.

Mary looked at the angel. She told him that she was pure and she did not understand how this could happen.

The angel told her that it would be a miracle of God. Mary told the angel that she would do anything that God asked her to do.

Mary's fiancé was not sure what to think when he heard the news. He knew that he was not the father. That night an angel came to him and told him that Mary was having a special child. The angel told Joseph to marry her. And he did.

We know that Jesus was born. God was His Father and Mary was His mother. Mary followed God and obeyed. It was hard having a baby when she was young. Many

people judged her wrongly because of the baby. She knew that He was special but others thought she was impure before marriage. Mary had to trust Jesus and know that she was OK in God's eyes even though others probably whispered mean things behind her back.

Another man in the Bible helps us see how important it is to stay pure, even when others are trying to get us to do things that are impure.

Joseph was a man in the Old Testament. He lived a long, long time before Jesus. (You may need to let them know this is a different Joseph than Mary's husband.) He was 1 of 12 kids in his family. His father liked him best. That made his other brothers mad. They made a plan and sold him into slavery and told their father that he was dead.

God had a purpose in all of Joseph's hard times. Joseph was successful in everything he did for his master. So, Joseph was put in charge of everything that his master owned. The man knew that Joseph would do a great job.

The man had a wife who lived in the house. She looked at Joseph and desired him because he was very handsome.

One day, she saw him and asked him to have sex with her.

Joseph refused! He told her that he would not do such a thing. It would be a sin against God.

Everyday the woman tried to persuade him. Joseph refused every time.

One day he was by himself in the house with the woman. She grabbed his coat and asked him again. Joseph said "No" and ran out of the house.

Joseph also was pure. He knew that having sexual relations with a woman who was not his wife was wrong—a sin. In fact, when the woman kept pestering him, he finally ran out. He got away from her and the temptation to sin.

In our lives, there will be people who want us to do wrong things. They may tell us that no one else will know our sin. They may say they love us. They may tell us that sexual sin is all right because "everyone else" does it. What does the Bible say? The Bible gives us guidelines to live by and tells us about people who followed those guidelines, as well as those who did not. Mary stayed pure. That means she chose not to have sex with anyone before marriage. Because she stayed true to God's rules and she lived to please God more than others, God chose her to be the mother of His Son! Joseph also chose to obey God's guidelines and not to sin! He became one of the most powerful men of that time. We can also make the choice to stay pure sexually—to live the way God says we should! Do you remember what happened in our shaving cream (or water) example. Once shaving cream or water become impure, it can't be pure again. It is the same way in our lives. Once we commit sexual sin before marriage, we become impure and we cannot then be pure again. The Bible tells us that if someone truly loves us, he/she will wait until marriage to have sex. If we truly love someone, we can and must keep our relationship pure for our husband/wife. God created sex. It is clean and beautiful within a marriage. That is how God designed it to be.

What if you have sinned in this way, or any way? What can you do?

God has a plan. He is perfect and pure. He knew that the only way for us to get to Heaven is to be pure, also. Well, we are not perfect and we make mistakes. So, God made a plan for us to get to Heaven with Him. God sent His Son, Jesus. He was like us and lived here on earth with people like us, but there was one thing that set Jesus apart, He never sinned. He was totally clean and pure. He never did any wrong thing. Why is that so

important? God knew that only a person who was totally clean could die for all the people who were unclean. Jesus was a clean sacrifice. He took all our wrongs and died for them. He took our punishment on Himself. Why? Jesus knew that if He died for us, He would make us clean, if we believe in Him.

Would you like to be clean? Would you like to go to Heaven? You must tell God you are sorry for all the wrong things you have done. You must believe in Jesus and all He did for you. Then, ask Jesus to come into your life. Ask Him to make you clean and help you to stay clean. Jesus will come into your life and change it. You will be like a new person, doing things like Jesus would do.

Learning Activities

Choose activities that will help them learn. You may want to talk more about the lesson. Ask questions to make sure they understand.

Memory Verse Activities

Talk about what it means to live according to God's Word. Ask the kids to give examples. Ask them to share how this will help them stay pure.

Prayer Time

Pray and ask God to help each person be pure in all areas of our lives—what we do, what we say, and what we think.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Use this time to get to know your kids better. Encourage them and be sensitive to needs in their lives.

Planning for October 20th
What does it mean to love God more than "stuff"
Matthew the tax collector
Matt. 9:9; 6:19-33

Younger Lesson

Jesus' Mother Mary

Luke 1:26-35

God tells us that we should have pure thoughts and do good things to others. Sometimes it is hard to be kind to others, especially when they have been mean to you. Let's look at Jesus' mother, Mary, and see what she did.

When Mary was a teenager, an angel came to her. At first Mary was a little scared. She was not sure what the angel wanted. The angel quickly calmed Mary's fears by telling her that God was pleased with her.

Then he told Mary some incredible news. He told her that she was going to be pregnant and have a son. His name would be Jesus.

The angel told her that it would be a miracle of God. Mary told the angel that she would do anything that God asked her to do.

Mary's fiancé was not sure what to think when he heard the news. That night an angel came to him and told him that Mary was having a special child, God's Son. The angel told Joseph to marry her. And he did.

We know that Jesus was born. Mary followed God and obeyed. It was hard having a baby when she was young. Many people judged her wrongly because of the baby. Mary had to trust Jesus and know that she was OK in God's eyes even though others probably whispered mean things behind her back.

Instead of saying hurting words, Mary kept her special news in her heart. She knew that God knew the truth and He loved her.

Sometimes people are mean to us or say mean things about us. It would be easy to have bad thoughts about the people or even spread untrue rumors about the people because of what they have done to us. God tells us that we should be pure and clean in our thoughts and actions. We should be nice to others even when they are not nice to us. Another way to say it is to treat others as you would like them to treat you..

Jesus is the greatest example of someone who loved others even when others were mean to Him. Even when Jesus was on the rough, wooden cross, people laughed at Him and even spit on Him. Instead of retaliating, Jesus prayed and asked God to forgive them!! The ultimate example of His love was that He died and came back to life. He did this to make a way for those who believe in Him to go to Heaven. If you want to know more about how to believe in Jesus, talk to us about it.

Preschool Lesson
For
Jesus' mother, Mary

God tells us that we should have good thoughts and do good things to others. Sometimes it is hard to be kind to others, especially when they have been mean to you. Let's look at Jesus' mother, Mary, and see what she did.

When Mary was a teenager, an angel came to her. At first Mary was a little scared. She was not sure what the angel wanted. The angel quickly calmed Mary's fears by telling her that God was pleased with her.

Then he told Mary some incredible news. He told her that she was going to have a son. His name would be Jesus.

The angel told her that it would be a miracle of God. Mary told the angel that she would do anything that God asked her to do.

Joseph was not sure what to think when he heard the news. That night an angel came to him and told him that Mary was having a special child, God's Son. The angel told Joseph to marry her. And he did.

We know that Jesus was born. Mary followed God and obeyed. It was hard having a baby when she was young. Many people said bad things about Mary because of the baby. Mary had to trust Jesus and know that she was OK in God's eyes.

Instead of saying hurting words, Mary kept her special news in her heart. She knew that God knew the truth and He loved her. She knew that God loved her and would help her say good things and think good thoughts about others.

Let's ask God to help us say nice things and think good thoughts about others.

Hands-On Activities For Jesus' Mother, Mary

To talk about the importance of purity, bring a tray of gum to class. Beforehand, chew some of the pieces of gum. On the tray, arrange chewed gum along with wrapped gum. Ask the kids which gum they would like to eat. Obviously, the wrapped gum will be the choice. Share how purity is like the wrapped gum. Just like we chose the clean gum, in relationships we must stay clean and pure and wait for our future husband/wife.

Bring a balloon, tape and a straight pin. Blow up the balloon and share how God has created us in a special way. (If you can make animal balloons, this is fun too.) Put a piece of tape on the balloon and stick the pin in the balloon. (The tape will insure that the balloon does not POP when the pin is inserted.) Obviously, the balloon will start to shrink in size. Share how our sin changed us. Now quickly add another piece of tape over the pinhole. Share how we can ask God to forgive our wrongs. God will forgive us but we will have to deal with the consequences of our sin. Explain that the best choice is to do right things and not sin.

Write the verse (Psalm 119:9) on a old bed sheet or piece of material and bring rolled up socks. Tell the kids that the socks represent "temptations." Now have 2-4 kids hold the sheet while the rest of the kids throw socks at the sheet. Share how God's Word will help deflect the "temptations" that try to cause us to sin.

(These next 3 object lessons were also in the Joseph material back in May)

Bring shaving cream, 2 bowls, towels or napkins. Squirt shaving cream into 1 bowl. Set aside. Let each person squirt a little in to his/her hands. Instruct them to rub their hands together. Now have each person put their shaving cream into the empty bowl. Compare bowls of cream. The untouched bowl has clean shaving cream, while the other bowl is dirty. Share that when we sin, we are dirty. When we remain pure, we are clean. You can also share how Jesus can wipe away our sin, but we still have to deal with the consequences.

Have a clear glass and dirt with you as you tell the story. Show everyone the clean glass of water. Now add dirt. Ask them if they can clean the dirt out of the water then drink it. In the same way, when we sin, we become dirty. We, like the water, will never be the same again. Jesus can clean us of our sin, but we will have to suffer the consequences of our wrong choices. The best choice is to stay clean.

Show the class 2 pieces of paper glued together (you can glue it ahead of time or at the beginning of the lesson so that it is dry by the time of the object lesson). Explain that God says that when 2 people marry, they become one person. If 2 people decide to have sex before marriage, what will happen? The 2 are not one. Rip the 2 pieces of paper apart. Show them how sex before marriage rips both people apart. And, the two people are not the same anymore. Part of them is gone forever. Share that God's plan is for us to wait and have sex after we marry. Then 2 people become 1 and stay together according to God's plan.